RESOLUTION NO. R 19-1085

RESOLUTION REPRIMANDING COUNCIL MEMBER ELTON ALEXANDER; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, REPEALING INCONSISTENT RESOLUTIONS, PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Stockbridge ("City") is a municipal corporation located within Henry County, Georgia duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia and is charged with providing public services to residents located within the corporate limits of the City;

WHEREAS, Council Member Elton Alexander was elected to serve the citizens of the City;

WHEREAS, Mr. Alexander swore an oath, that among other things, he would perform the duties of the office of Council Member in the best interests of the City of Stockbridge;

WHEREAS, the office of a City Council Member requires that such person meet and maintain the highest standards of behavior;

WHEREAS, the City Council has received numerous complaints from Stockbridge residents, City of Stockbridge staff, the media and other governmental and civic organizations regarding various aspects of Mr. Alexander's behavior;

WHEREAS, Mr. Alexander has repeatedly mischaracterized statements of other elected officials and given members of the City Council a false impression of their views;

WHEREAS, Mr. Alexander has escalated his mischaracterization of the statements of other elected officials to the point that Mr. Alexander has blatantly LIED to the people of Stockbridge about other elected officials on numerous occasions;

WHEREAS, Mr. Alexander has repeatedly instigated unwarranted disputes within the Council, specifically by publicly and privately attacking Councilman Blount and Councilwoman Gantt in violation of the City's Code of Conduct;

WHEREAS, Mr. Alexander has engaged in unprofessional and often insulting dialog with members of the community, the City Council and staff via e-mail and social media;

WHEREAS, Mr. Alexander's unprofessional, rude and crude behavior has included the harassment of Mayor Ford during the period the Mayor was grieving the death of his father;

WHEREAS, Mr. Alexander has repeatedly ignored the advice of the City's staff and consultants and has taken actions that are detrimental to the City's interests;

WHEREAS, Mr. Alexander's behavior has prevented the City from being able to work and find common ground with the Henry County Commission to the severe financial and political detriment of the City of Stockbridge;

WHEREAS the City Council wishes to make clear that the Council does not condone nor accept Mr. Alexander's behavior;

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to make clear that the Mr. Alexander does NOT speak on behalf of the City nor does the City Council endorse any of his statements;

WHEREAS, the City Council has repeatedly had to warn and caution Mr. Alexander about his unacceptable and deplorable behavior, including in a censure by this City Council in January 2018; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that this resolution is necessary and beneficial to its citizens and to the proper use of City funds.

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STOCKBRIDGE HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. **Censure.** – Mr. Alexander is hereby formally censured and reprimanded for his unacceptable and inexcusable behavior. Mr. Alexander is called upon to cease the aforementioned behavior and to conduct himself in a manner fitting the office of City Council Member. Mr. Alexander is further called upon to seek mental counseling in order to ensure his ability to properly and appropriately serve the people of Stockbridge.

Section 2. **Approval of Execution -** The Mayor is hereby authorized to sign all documents and to perform all other acts necessary to effectuate this Resolution on behalf of the City of Stockbridge. The City Clerk is authorized to execute, attest to, and seal any document which may be necessary to effectuate this Resolution, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

Section 3. **Severability** - To the extent any portion of this Resolution is declared to be invalid, unenforceable, or non-binding, that shall not affect the remaining portions of this Resolution.

Section 4. **Repeal of Conflicting Provisions** - All City resolutions inconsistent with this Resolution are hereby repealed.

Section 7. **Effective Date** - This Resolution shall be effective on the date of its approval by the City Council and Mayor as provided in the City Charter.

ATTEST:

VANESSA HOLIDAY, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM

MICHAEL WILLIAMS, CITY ATTORNEY